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(72) Inventors:
• Nelson, William E
Dallas, Texas 75205 (US)
• Frick, Beat
CH-8105 Regensdorf (CH)

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(74) Representative: Harris, Ian Richard et al
D. Young & Co.,
21 New Fetter Lane
London EC4A 1DA (GB)

(71) Applicants:
• TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INC.
Dallas, Texas 75243 (US)
• GRETAG IMAGING AG
8105 Regensdorf (CH)

(54) Photofinishing utilizing modulated light source array

(57) A digital photograph printer comprising a transport mechanism, a modulated light source (1206), and an exposure controller (1302). The transport mechanism for advancing a photosensitive medium (1202) through an exposure region (1200) such that said photosensitive medium advances one row of pixel locations each row period. The modulated light source (1206) is operable to selectively provide a beam of light to an array of individually modulated regions (1300, 1306, 1310) in an exposure region (1200). As the photosensitive medium (1202) moves through the exposure region (1200) the individually modulated regions in the exposure re-

gion (1200) have the opportunity to expose each pixel locations in the exposure region (1200) once each row period. The exposure controller (1302) operable to control the modulated light source (1206) based on image data provided to modulated light source. The image data comprises optical density data for each pixel in an image to be formed on the photosensitive medium for each of at least three primary colors. The controller selectively exposes the photosensitive medium at a number of exposure opportunities, each selective exposure performed for a period no greater than 50% of the row time, and the duration of at least two of the exposure periods having a non-binary relationship.

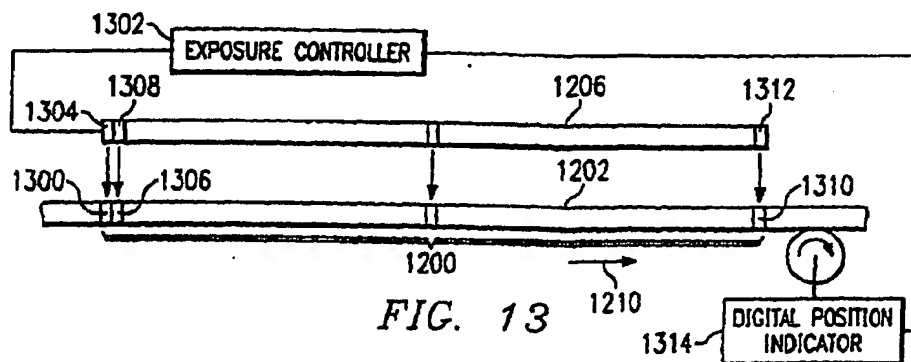


FIG. 13

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 6 May 2002	Examiner Waern, G
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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